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orderly manner, confining himself to the commonest species of British insects and to a style intended to encourage intelligent life study of them by younger people, to discourage collecting, but to stimulate the profitable employment of eyes and ears in town or country. The insects chiefly treated are: beetles, earwigs, cockroaches, crickets, grasshoppers, dragon-flies, may-flies, lace-wing flies, ants, bees, wasps, gall-flies, butterflies, moths, bugs, frog-hoppers, gnats, crane and other flies.

Mosquito Life, by EVELYN GROESBECK MITCHELL. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1907. pp. 281.

Although very much has been written about mosquitoes in recent years, it is widely scattered through many books and periodicals, and until now there has been no single work containing in condensed form the essential facts made known concerning the different phases of this important and interesting topic. The writer first describes the systematic position and structure of the eggs, larvæ, pupæ and imago and then some adult habits, such as blood sucking, diet of males and females, hibernation, how long mosquitoes live, how far they fly, etc. Then she discusses malaria, yellow fever and other diseases. The work contains 54 illustrative diagrams.

The Life History of the Carpenter Ant, by JOHN LOSSEN PRICER. Biological Bulletin, Vol. XIV, 1908, 177-218.

Two varieties of *Camponotus herculeanus*—*C. pennsylvanicus*, and *C. ferrugineus*—were studied. He finds that winged forms are not produced until the colony is more than two years old. Sexually perfect individuals are not produced until the colony numbers approximately two thousand workers. It requires a colony from three to six years to reach this size. He believes that the variations in form are ontogenetic in origin and that there is no distinct soldier type. The division of labor among them is also incomplete. The ants show a decided preference for the red or longer rays and a decided dislike for the ultraviolet rays. In all probability the light is perceived through the eyes. These ants have some means of inter-communication. They can track themselves and others of the colony, but are not able to make out the direction in which the trail was first laid down. They seem to be guided by a kind of memory of the location of things and perhaps depend, as a last resort, on a sense of direction. When travelling from the nest, they usually pay very little attention to trails. They give no evidence of anything akin to reason. W. L. GARD.

Behavior of the Starfish, Asterias Forreri de Loria, by H. JENNINGS. The University of California Publications in Zoology. Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 53-185. Nineteen text figures. Nov. 26, 1907. Contributions from the Laboratory of the Marine Biological Association of San Diego.

The chief result developed by this careful paper is the demonstration of the variability, modifiability, unity and adaptiveness in the main features of the behavior of the starfish. The movements are shown to depend on the varying physiological conditions of the animal and the animal's nature, which demonstrably modify the physiological condition, and therefore the behavior are set forth in detail. Habit formation is demonstrated and discussed in full. The unity and co-ordination of much behavior is shown, with certain theories of its origin. There are also essentially new accounts of the method of locomotion. The monograph is intended to be a storehouse of objective facts for reference concerning the starfish so that the author deems it hardly practicable to make out a summary. He has provided